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Introduction

The Pacific Islands Development Forum Conference was held on the 29 – 30 July 2019 at the Pullman Nadi Bay Resort & Spa Fiji with the theme, ‘South – South Cooperation for a Resilient Pacific.’ A total of nearly 160 participants comprising of member countries and pacific organisations, regional and international organisations, civil societies and the private sector participated at this successful Conference.

PIDF members that attended included the Republic of Nauru, Tuvalu, Federated States of Micronesia, the Republic of Fiji, the Republic of Kiribati, the Republic of Marshall Islands, Palau, Solomon Islands, Timor Leste, the Kingdom of Tonga, Vanuatu, Pacific Islands Association of Non-Government Organization (PIANGO) and the Pacific Islands Private Sector Organization (PIPSO).

The other countries that were represented at the Conference via invitation included Argentina, Australia, Bolivian Republic of Venezuela, China, European Union, India, Korea, Kosovo, Malaysia, New Zealand, Russia, Singapore, and United Kingdom.

The Conference was strategically designed in accordance to its theme and presented a total of 5 thematic plenary sessions, 1 institutional plenary session, 1 plenary session on the iconic Nadi Bay Declaration and a concluding plenary session as listed below:

1) South-South Cooperation: The Global Experience and relevance of the Pacific.
2) South-South Cooperation: SIDS and Pacific Islands experience and success stories.
3) South-South Cooperation for the blue and green economy – Implementation and Financing
4) Multi-stakeholder partnership for Island Resilience – South-South Cooperation in Action.
5) Leveraging Innovations from the Global South to Support Island Resilience.
6) PIDF Governance and Institutional Issues
7) Taking Action on Climate Change – Nadi Bay Declaration on Climate Crisis
8) Closing Plenary – National Statements

The list of participants can be found in Annex 1.
Summary of Outcomes
This section summarises the 8 plenary sessions that were undertaken at the Conference over the two days period.

Plenary Session No.1: South – South Cooperation, The Global Experience and relevance for the Pacific

This session focuses on South-South and triangular Cooperation. This has proven to be an effective methodology of development through the sharing of knowledge, exchange of resources, technology transfer and building capacities between the global south.

Moderator – Mr Jimmie Rodgers (Secretary to the Prime Minister of Solomon Islands)
Penalists – Mr Denis Nkala (Regional Coordinator, United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation), Mr Levan Bouadze (UNDP Resident Representative), Mr Tevita Boseiwaqa (Director General, Centre on Integrated Rural Development for Asia and the Pacific), H.E. Amena Yauvoli (Ambassador/Director General, Melanesian Spearhead Group Secretariat), Ms Farhana Saleem (Senior Publications & Communication Officer, The Commission on Science and Technology for Sustainable Development in the South), Mr Guo Li (Project Director, China International Centre for Economic and Technical Exchanges)

Key Outcomes of Plenary Session 1

1) The PIDF has an important role in the regional architecture to provide a mechanism to articulate the UN 2030 Global Agenda and SSC through to the achievement of SDGs at the national level.

2) Mechanisms required to move SSC forward at the national level include the right policy framework, supporting legislation, political will and solidarity among PIDF member states.

3) There needs to be alignment of all stakeholders for better coordination and implementation.

4) A holistic development approach needs to be employed.

5) There was a plea for leadership of the Pacific on global sustainable development agendas requiring big and collective PIDF member voices.
Plenary Session No. 2: South-South Cooperation, SIDS and Pacific Islands experience and success stories

This session notes that South-South triangulation Cooperation is not new for the Pacific region. The session seeks to give recognition to past and on-going South-South and Triangular cooperation in the region and individual countries to tease out lessons and best practices from islands.

Moderator – Professor Jito Vanualailalai (Co-director, Pacific Islands Universities Research Network)

Video Message – Ms Kate Brown (CEO, GLISPA)

Penalists – Mr Vilimone Baledrokadroka (Deputy Secretary - Technical, Fiji Ministry of Employment), Mr Pene Baleinabuli (Permanent Secretary, Fiji Ministry of Forestry), Dr Hiria Ottino (President, Pacific China Friendship Association), Mr Wang Dengshan (Director General, Biogas Institute, China Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs)

Key Outcomes for Plenary Session 2

6) Learning from each other is important and collaborating with different stakeholders.

7) Development, ownership and control (DOCs) philosophy should be considered for sustainability and resilience of the cooperation and projects.

8) Localisation of international agreements for better understanding and effective implementation.

9) Ownership of development priorities highlighting the importance of nationally driven process by the National Development Boards (NDBs).

10) Being open and transparent amongst themselves as Pacific Small Island Developing States (PSIDS).

11) Capacity strengthening was important.

12) Globalising local issues such as Climate Change to remain as a standing agenda item for PIDF.

13) Regionalising national programmes under SSC for the benefits of other PSIDS, for example the Fiji Volunteer Scheme.
Plenary Session No.3: South-South Cooperation for the Blue-Green economy – Implementation and Financing

The blue/green economy is considered as an alternative approach to economic development in the world of uncertainty and vulnerability. Best practices, information and knowledge on sustainable blue/green economy resources governance from the global south can empower Pacific Islands countries, peoples and communities and ensure a more productive, inclusive and sustainable blue/green economy. The time to build and escalate sufficient global south momentum is now!

Moderator - Mr Tevita Boseiwaqa (Director General, Centre on Integrated Rural Development for Asia and the Pacific).

Penalists – Professor Xu Wei (China Oceanic Development Foundation), Mr Masayuki Tachiiri (Regional Director, Asian Development Bank Pacific Sub-regional Office), Professor Elizabeth Holland (Director, Pacific Centre for Environment and Sustainable Development, USP)

Key Outcomes for Plenary Session 3

14) Importance of partnerships for articulating green-blue economy initiatives from local to regional and global.
15) Blending private and public funding as some projects and marine initiatives may not be commercial.
16) Blue-green economy projects and policies need to be evidence based, using scientific findings and trained advocates to translate this to advocacy, initiatives.
17) To replicate blue-green projects from small to big to find solutions supporting the resilience of PSIDS.
18) Use the unique mechanism of PIDF in the regional architecture to unlock blue-green economy funding available globally.
Plenary Session No.4: Multi-stakeholder partnership for Island Resilience – South-South Cooperation in Action

Problems in islands are interconnected and require multi-sector solutions through Multi-stakeholder Partnerships (MSP)

**Moderator** – **Ms Sarah Thomas-Nededog** (Chair, *Pacific Islands Association of Non-Government Organisations*)

**Video Message** – **Ms Breanna Rose** (Director, Operations and Partnerships, *Hawaii Green Growth Hub*)

**Penalists** – **Ms Olita Tupou** (Deputy Secretary, *Prime Minister’s Office, Tonga*), **Mr Stephen Lyon** (Chair, *Pacific Islands Private Sector Organisation*), **Ms Anne Colquhoun** (*United Nations Office for the Co-ordination of Humanitarian Affairs*)

**Key Outcomes for Plenary Session 4**

19) MSPs are key to survival, many are working well, but much more needs to be done via MSPs to build resilience.

20) UN to work with local and regional cluster humanitarian groups, benefitting from global and South-South resources as required, especially in relation to the impacts of Climate Change and emergency responses.

21) PIANGO provided key co-ordination for local community groups and a strong Pacific and MSP voice on global partnerships and SDGs, for example at the World Humanitarian Summit.

22) More trust building required between Private Sector and Governments. Private Sector looks to Government to provide the regulatory environment for business development and growth.

23) Opportunities exist for MSP with other groups of SIDs in the Caribbean and Indian Oceans, especially in taking advantage of the Green Climate Fund.
Plenary Session No. 5: Leveraging Innovations from the Global South to Support Island Resilience

South-South Cooperation is a multiplier and accelerator for sustainable development through developing scalable and replicable innovative solutions and models that can overcome today’s challenges and catalyse local action for impacts. Part of the value of South-South Cooperation lays in its primary purpose to empower countries to shape home-grown responses rather than relying on external interventions to development problems.

Moderator – Professor Anirudh Singh (Science Department, University of Fiji)

Penalists – Mr Lu Wenming (Deputy Director General, International Bamboo and Rattan Organisation, China), Mr Sefano Katz (Project Manager, The Beqa Lagoon Initiative, Blue Pacific Foundation), Mr Zhang Peng (CEO, Huawei Fiji), Mr Ruibo Fang (Suntech Power), Mr Taholo Kami (Special Advisor, Climate Change Unit, Fiji Ministry of Economy)

Key Outcomes for Plenary Session 5

24) Bamboo contributes to the resilience and sustainability of the ecosystem, offering multiple usage opportunities in construction and as an alternative to plastic products.

25) The Beqa Lagoon Area initiative showed how communities, government, scientists and others could work together to address social ecological challenges and find solutions for resilience. This project could be scaled up and replicated across the region.

26) ICT was essential for development and leadership and MSPs could help PSIDS take advantage of ICT innovation, connectivity and usage.

27) Focus on energy efficiency in shipping, reduction in emissions and access to renewable sources of energy in PIDF countries was welcomed.
Plenary Session No. 6: PIDF Governance and Institutional Issues

Outcomes of the Leaders’ Summit, presentation on the work and projects of the PIDF Secretariat.

Special Address - by PIDF Chair – Hon Voreqe Bainimarama, Prime Minister of Fiji

Presentation - by PIDF Secretary General, Mr Francois Martel

Key Outcomes for Plenary Session 6

1) Noted the expanding role of PIDF across its purpose and functions but the challenge remains the work yet to be done for sustainable development and poverty eradication in the Pacific.

2) Noted the legacy of the PIDF that is worthy of its founding and missions as the regional South-South cooperation platform. It has a standing of the highest regional and international status.

3) PIDF will have a renewed focus to make the organisation a relevant force in the lives of the citizens it represents. Noted there is white space in the Pacific currently being missed by other regional players, which the PIDF could take up, particularly on the empowerment of women, young people and people with disabilities, management of waterways and combatting the flow of illegal drugs.

4) Acknowledging the Secretary General (Mr François Martel) for his efforts and noted the conclusion of his term in October. The announcement that Fiji’s Ambassador to Washington, DC, H.E. Solo Mara, will take up the Secretary General position on an interim basis – leveraging his diplomatic experience on behalf of Fiji with a new mandate to restructure PIDF and bring it to the next level.

5) PIDF to facilitate the four-year review of its Charter, the completion of its 2020-2030 Strategic Plan, the completion of establishment of National Boards in each member countries and the set-up of the Regional Development Trust Fund to secure its financial sustainability among other key activities.

6) Noted that PIDF now stands ready to speak in one voice in the defence of the Pacific Islands’ interests and in the future.
Plenary Session No. 7: Taking Action on Climate Change – Nadi Bay Declaration on Climate Crisis

The aim of the Declaration is to adopt the message and calls for action of the PIDF Conference participants to the United Nations Climate Summit in New York and to COP25, to be championed by Pacific Leaders in the face of climate crisis in the world and the Pacific is facing.

Moderator – H.E. Amena Yauvoli (Ambassador/Director General, Melanesian Spearhead Group)

Video Message – Mr Bill McKibben (Co-founder, 350.org)

Address by – Ms Patricia Mallam (Senior Communications Specialist, 350.org, Pacific Region), Mr Solomon Yeo (President, USP Law School, Vanuatu)

Statement from Republic of Marshall Islands – Hon John M. Silk (Minister of Foreign Affairs & Trade)

Key Outcomes for Plenary Session 7

7) Nadi Bay Declaration on the Climate Change Crisis in the Pacific – Please refer to Annex 2

8) Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)

- Two MOUs were signed at the PIDF Conference on 30 July 2019.

- MOU entitled Collaboration on Bamboo Development in the Pacific Islands was signed between the International Bamboo and Rattan Organization (INBAR) and the Pacific Islands Development Forum (PIDF).
  *For INBAR*: Mr Lu Wenming, Deputy Director General, INBAR.
  *For PIDF*: Mr François Martel, Secretary-General, PIDF.

- MOU entitled Solarization of Heads of States Residence Project was signed between the PIDF and the Republic of the Marshall Islands (RMI).
  *For RMI*: Hon. John M. Silk, Minister of Foreign Affairs, RMI.
  *For PIDF*: Mr François Martel, Secretary-General, PIDF.
9) **Tonga**
- The PIDF Chair has full support from Tonga for the governance meetings.
- Tonga brought its aspirations and cause to present on the PIDF platform and South-South cooperation partners – through durable partnership and inclusivity.
- Tonga thanked out-going Secretary General, Mr Martel, for his exemplary leadership and stewardship of PIDF and congratulated in-coming Interim Secretary General, H.E. Ambassador Solo Mara, in carrying forward PIDF and partnerships for the future.

10) **Kiribati**
- Kiribati wishes to see PIDF show its relevance and importance in the region by facilitating the achievement of these ultimate goals – social development and poverty reduction.
- Kiribati expressed its support for PIDF in the region.
- Kiribati recommended further action by PIDF to strengthen South-South cooperation at the national level, working with the private sector and civil society towards health, peace and prosperity.

11) **Solomon Islands**
- Solomon Islands expressed its appreciation for the work of the Secretariat, support to the Solomon Islands and for the organisation of the Conference and Summit.
- Solomon Islands noted that PIDF provides the only platform reaching all three actors in development.
- In the Solomon Islands there is joint pursuit of sustainable development and poverty eradication and in this respect expressed its commitment to PIDF and support for its work going forward.

12) **India**
- India congratulated Fiji’s Prime Minister on taking the Chair of PIDF and Solomon Islands on completion of its term as Chair.
- India mentioned that it has been partnering with friends in the region and reflected that India supported projects on seawall construction, solar electrification and women empowerment through bilateral aid programs in the Pacific.
- India is committed to the development of all Pacific Island Countries especially in relation to climate change and climate crisis.

13) **China**
- China noted that PIDF had great potential and executed good work in promoting sustainable development. South-South cooperation is a common cause and plays a positive and important role in eradicating poverty and achieving sustainable development in developing countries.
China is a staunch proponent, active player and major contributor to South-South cooperation. China noted that it is working to help Pacific Island Countries to improve infrastructure through the ‘Belt and Road Initiative,’ support market access to China, and support for agriculture and skills development for self-development.

China noted that equality, mutual benefit and good relations are important and that China is willing to join developing countries to achieve development together.

14) Argentina

- Argentina announced that it is planning to organize an agribusiness workshop for the Pacific about food security with local and regional agencies.
- Argentina seeks to work together with the Pacific to make priorities and implement a medium term project to create a more resilient region.
- Argentina expressed its commitment to the Paris Agreement and alignment to mitigation goals to adapt to climate change.
- Argentina noted maritime transport and its priority. Argentina indicated that it is a candidate for the International Maritime Council, noting that Pacific Island Countries are members of the council, their votes are requested to support specific needs of the region.

Final Remarks

15) PIDF Secretariat

- The Conference was designed to reflect PIDF’s unique voice, position and comparative advantage in the regional architecture. These included South-South cooperation and in particular with other island groups, as the Seychelles relationship demonstrated.
- The involvement of the private sector and civil society in PIDF opened up opportunities to access funds for green-blue economy multi-stakeholder partnerships and integrated development.
- The Secretariat thanked its technical and development partners, governments, private sector and civil society representatives, sponsors, staff and volunteers.

16) Fiji

- Fiji thanked the organizers, participants and expressed his gratitude and thanks to the government of the Solomon Islands and the Secretary General for his leadership of the PIDF.
- Fiji reaffirmed its commitment to strengthening the work of the Secretariat which needed collective energies and full support from its members.
## Annex 1 - Participant List

### PIDF MEMBERS
- Federated States of Micronesia
- Kingdom of Tonga
- Palau
- Republic of Fiji
- Republic of Kiribati
- Republic of Marshall Islands
- Republic of Nauru
- Solomon Islands
- Timor Leste
- Tuvalu
- Vanuatu
- Pacific Islands Association of Non-Government Organisation (PIANGO)
- Pacific Islands Private Sector Organisation (PIPSO)

### COUNTRIES
- Argentine Republic
- Australia
- Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela
- Korea
- Malaysia
- New Zealand
- People's Republic of China
- Republic of India
- Republic of Indonesia
- Republic of Indonesia
- Republic of Kosovo
- Russian Federation
- Singapore
- United Kingdom

### GOVERNMENT MINISTRIES & DEPARTMENT
- Biogas Institute of Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs, China (BIOMA)
- Fiji Ministry of Education
- Fiji Ministry of Employment, Productivity and Industrial Relations
- Fiji Ministry of Forestry
- Fiji Police Force
- Ministry of Commerce, China

### INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS
- Asian Development Bank (ADB) - Pacific Sub-regional Office
- Centre on Integrated Rural Development for Asia and the Pacific (CIRDAP)
- China International Centre for Economic & Technical Exchanges
- Conservation International (CI)
- Delegation of the European Union for the Pacific (EU)
| Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) - Fiji Office
| Global Island Partnership (GLISPA)
| International Bamboo and Rattan Organisation (INBAR)
| International Labour Organisation (ILO)
| Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) - Fiji Office
| Soroptimist International of the South West Pacific
| The Commission on Science and Technology for Sustainable Development in the South (COMSATS)
| United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF) - Pacific Multi Country Office
| United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) - Pacific
| United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation (UNOSSC) - Regional Office
| United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) - Pacific Office
| United Nations Office of the High Commissioner of Human Rights (UNOHRCHR) - Regional Office
| World Health Organisation (WHO) - Pacific Office

| REGIONAL ORGANISATIONS
| Pacific Community (SPC)
| Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat (PIFS)
| South Pacific Tourism Organisation (SPTO)
| University of the South Pacific (USP)

| TECHNICAL PARTNERS
| Conservational International (CI)
| Fiji National University (FNU)
| Melanesian Spearhead Group (MSG)
| University of Fiji (UniFiji)

| CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANISATIONS
| 350.ORG - Pacific
| AIESEC in Fiji
| Alliance for Future Generations Fiji
| Aspire Network
| China Ocean Development Foundation (CODF)
| Chinese People's Association for Friendship with Foreign Countries (CPAFFC)
| Commonwealth Youth Peace Ambassador Network (CYPAN)
| Fiji Council of Social Services
| Foundation for Rural Integrated Enterprises and Development (FRIEND Fiji)
| Ignite4Change
| Pacific Blue Foundation
| Pacific Islands Students Fighting Climate Change (PISFCC)
| Pacific Network on Globalisation
| Pacific-China Friendship Association (PCFA)
| Papua Language Institute (PLI)
| Project Survival Pacific (PSP)
| Sailing4Sustainability - Fiji
| Save the Children Fiji
| Talanoa Mada Youth Group
| Vatukavika Women's Club
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<td><strong>PRIVATE SECTOR</strong></td>
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<td>China Dalian International Economic &amp; Technical Cooperation Group (CDIG)</td>
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Annex 2 – Nadi Bay Declaration

We, the People of the Pacific Islands Development Forum, Striving to advance the sustainable and inclusive development of Pacific Island nations, Dedicated to the goals of poverty eradication, environmental preservation and to addressing the challenges of the current anthropogenic climate change crisis; Advocating for a paradigm shift to foster coherence between Climate Change mitigation and adaptation actions, environmental protection and resilience development;

Declare that we:

1) **Express deep concern** about the lack of comprehension, ambition, or commitment shown by developed nations of the world regarding the impending grave consequences that the current and ongoing Climate Crisis poses for vulnerable Pacific Small Island Developing States (PSIDS), which contribute negligible amounts of greenhouse gases (GHGs) to this human-caused global problem;

2) **Recall the Suva Declaration on Climate Change** that called for the need to limit the global temperature increase to 1.5°C compared to pre-industrial levels, which was eventually and legally adopted as a GHG emissions and temperature target in the Paris Agreement on Climate Change;

3) **Underscore the serious concerns** and the stark warnings, documented by the IPCC Special Report on 1.5°C and the Special Report on Oceans and Cryosphere, GHG emissions must be reduced immediately. The science warns of the real possibility that coral atoll nations could become uninhabitable as early as 2030. By 2100, the coral atoll nations of the Republic of the Marshall Islands, Tuvalu, Kiribati, Tokelau and the Maldives and many SIDS could be submerged;

4) **As Leaders of Big Ocean States, emphasize** the important relationship between the ocean and climate change in terms of management of carbon, the absorption of heat and regulation of global climate system;

5) **Re-assert the serious effects** of loss and damage on PSIDS including the implications on territorial baselines and EEZ, and the concerns on the current degradation of ocean health, ice-sheets depletion and sea level rise, and their impact on the survivability, livelihood and sovereignty of PSIDS;

6) **Affirm that** climate change poses the single greatest threat to the human rights and security of present and future generations of Pacific Island peoples;

7) **Strongly support** the need for a UN Resolution to establish a Legal Framework to protect the rights of people displaced by climate change that impedes access to basic rights to life, water, food, and housing for many millions of people around the world;
8) **Support** the statement of United Nations Secretary-General António Guterres to “tax pollution, not people, and end subsidies for fossil fuels” during a visit to Tuvalu;

9) **Call for urgent actions** by all countries, to fully honour and implement their Kyoto Protocol and its amended GHG emissions reduction targets, as well as to meet their NDCs under the Paris Agreement;

10) **Recognize** the urgent responsibility and moral obligation of fossil fuel producers to lead in putting an end to fossil fuel development and to manage the decline of existing production and the need to ensure the phase out of coal power to achieve the Paris climate goals and also recognize that these do not just have economic costs, but also are of widespread detriment to human health through acute respiratory and cardiovascular diseases;

11) **Recognize the ambitions** of the Tony de Brum Declaration that targets a reduction of GHG emissions from the shipping industry, and encourage all countries to support efforts aimed at decarbonizing the transport sector, particularly the maritime sector, and seek Pacific partnerships working to advance these efforts;

12) Considering the impacts of Climate Change on the whole Pacific and the individual Pacific island countries, **WE the People of the Pacific Islands Development Forum, declare a Climate Change Crisis in the Pacific** and

**CALL:**

a. On all parties to the UNFCCC to recognize the work of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) and the important scientific work that they produce;

b. On the global community to seriously take action to urgently address the warnings of the IPCC Special Report on the dire consequences of lack of urgent actions to address climate change and sea level rise on SIDS, and their legal and moral responsibility to account for the loss and damages inflicted on SIDS;

c. On all parties to welcome the IPCC Special Report on 1.5°C, and the upcoming Special Report on the Ocean and Cryosphere in a Changing Climate and the Special Report on Climate Change and Land by the 25th UNFCCC Conference of Parties to meet in Santiago Chile on 2-13 December 2019;

d. On those governments of high emitting countries that are hindering progress in climate change efforts to heed the climate science and urgently change direction for the benefit of all, including the people in their own countries;

e. On all coal producers to immediately cease any new mining of coal and develop a strategy for a decadal phase-out and closure of all existing coal production;
f. On all parties to take immediate measures to relinquish the subsidies to fossil fuel production and use and support a transition to appropriate and affordable technologies;

g. On relevant parties to the Kyoto Protocol to refrain from using ‘carryover credits’ as an abatement for the additional Paris Agreement emissions reduction targets;

h. Other UNFCCC parties to support the Ocean Pathway Initiative launched at COP 23 in Bonn that aims for an ocean inclusive UNFCCC process at COP25;

i. On all developed countries to support climate finance, capacity development and technology transfer for the vulnerable developing countries to transition to renewable energy for electricity generation and transport.

j. On parties to the UNFCCC to ensure there is sufficient finances in support of the Green Climate Fund and to support its replenishment and ensure the rapid deployment of funds to support both mitigation and adaptation efforts;

k. On the UN Secretary General to ensure that the upcoming UN Climate Change Summit leads to accelerated ambitions on climate change mitigation and adaptation and encourage all states to urgently take action to address climate change;

l. Also on the UN Secretary General to initiate a thorough review of the obligations of States under International Law with particular reference to the protection of present and future generations against the adverse effects of climate change, as stipulated under Article 2 of the UNFCCC.

_Endorsed at Nadi Bay, Fiji on the 30th July 2019_